

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, we just had a question raised as to the effectiveness of the stimulus package in creating jobs. Well, I know that Mr. CANTOR from Virginia tries to criticize the package for not being productive, but you can't convince the members of my district of that.

In my district alone, according to the school district, 150 teaching jobs were saved; we are beginning construction on a new facility for our transit system, putting 80 new jobs on the street. Most importantly, we had an announcement from GE, General Electric appliance park, that they are moving a unit back from China building revolutionary environmentally advanced water heaters creating more than 400 new jobs in my district. That's the result of stimulus money being used for an incentive.

And, finally, we've seen housing gains for the first time in a year of 10 percent in both July and August due to the first-time homebuyers' credit that was part of that stimulus package.

So when the American people wonder whether that stimulus package, which is still in its infant stages—20 percent, at most, of the money's gone out—you can look at Louisville, Kentucky, and I'll give you evidence that the stimulus package is working and creating jobs.

#### THE POST-9/11 GI BILL

(Mr. REHBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Speaker, the most important domestic policy following World War II was the GI Bill which paid for the education of the brave men and women who served in the name of freedom.

Montana has some of the best colleges and universities in the country; but for some returning soldiers, a traditional campus isn't the best fit. The post-9/11 GI Bill provided flexibility for soldiers who wanted to take advantage of distance education benefits.

Currently, five of the 10 colleges with the highest veteran populations are colleges that are entirely online or have significant online course loads. While veterans may receive funds to pay for tuition, fees, and books, distance learners are ineligible for living expenses.

I've introduced the Veterans Distance Education Benefits Act, which reimburses soldiers' living expenses so they can focus on their education. I encourage my colleagues to join me in sponsoring this important legislation so we can get it passed quickly.

#### OVER 100 DAYS WAITING FOR A REPUBLICAN PLAN

(Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because it has

been more than 100 days since my friend and colleague, Representative ROY BLUNT, the point man for the rumored Republican alternative health reform plan, said, I guarantee you we will provide you with a bill.

Even Louisiana Republican Governor Bobby Jindal urged his party Tuesday to work with Democrats to offer health care solutions.

The time to act on health insurance reform is now. We must act to offer the choice of affordable quality health care to all Americans putting you and your doctor, not the insurance companies, in charge of your health care while we reduce the problem of ballooning health care costs on American families, businesses, and our fiscal future.

"No" is not a solution. Saying you support reform with no evidence of that support and no plan just doesn't cut it. Continuing to say "no" to reform leaves tens of millions of Americans without health insurance, and 45,000 Americans die every year because of this.

Our friends on the other side of the aisle can't run away from the fact that they have no plan.

The time to act on health insurance reform is now.

#### COAL IS NEEDED

(Mr. DUNCAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, Bjorn Lomborg, one of the world's leading environmentalists, wrote in Monday's Washington Post these words:

"Today, coal accounts for almost half of the planet's electricity supply, including half the power consumed in the United States. It keeps hospitals and core infrastructure running, provides warmth and light in winter, and makes lifesaving air-conditioning available in summer. In China and India, where coal accounts for more than 80 percent of power generation, it has helped to lift hundreds of millions of people out of poverty.

"There is no doubt that coal is causing environmental damage that we need to stop. But a clumsy, radical halt to our coal use—which is what promises of drastic carbon cuts require—would mean depriving billions of people of a path to prosperity.

"To put it bluntly: despite their good intentions, the activists, lobbyists and politicians making a last-ditch push for hugely expensive carbon-cut promises could easily end up doing hundreds of times more damage to the planet than coal ever could."

I wish we would heed those words of this environmentalist because if we drastically cut back on coal, we're going to hurt millions of poor people in the process.

#### ARRA IS WORKING

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, this week in Congress will be ending, and I have some interesting experiences to relate.

In Transportation Committee today, we had a hearing, and one of our former Members is now the Secretary of Transportation, Ray LaHood, a Republican member from Illinois. Secretary LaHood reported to the committee that the ARRA is working, that much of the money has been spent or utilized in plans by State governments and that lots of employment has been made on building of roads and bridges and airport improvements and on rail programs around the country, that people are going back to work.

I also have an opportunity on Tuesday to attend the National Institutes of Health for a briefing, which I plan to do with other colleagues. President Obama announced that \$5 billion has been spent on cancer research through NIH. I offered an amendment to the ARRA in the House for a \$10 billion improvement. That didn't make it through the House, but a similar proposal made it through the Senate. It will be interesting to see where those moneys are creating jobs and finding cures for cancer and other catastrophic illnesses like Parkinson's, diabetes, and Alzheimer's.

The ARRA is working.

□ 1500

#### PROTECT OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE

(Mr. CAO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CAO. Mr. Speaker, for many immigrant families like mine, the struggle to preserve our culture and heritage and to contribute to the rich cultural fabric of our Nation assumes center stage. We make efforts to ensure, for example, that our children speak their native language and are familiar with their customs and traditions.

One of the tools most often used by immigrant communities is multimedia through which cultural traditions are exhibited and transmitted. In the Vietnamese American community, for example, music and videos produced and distributed throughout the United States have cultivated and instilled in the minds of our children the love and respect for the heritage of their parents and grandparents.

Unfortunately, organizations that produce these cultural expressions are being forced to close their doors due to significant financial losses from copyright infringement both here and abroad. Often, these organizations have lesser means and cannot survive this theft.

Today, I call my upon my colleagues in Congress to join me in tough oversight of the Federal agencies responsible for prosecuting copyright infringement because enforcing these